

Immunization Registry Progress in Virginia

Immunization Coverage in Virginia

According to National Immunization Survey (NIS) data for July 1998 to June 1999, the percentage of children 19-35 months of age who were up-to-date with 4 doses of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, 3 doses of poliomyelitis, and 1 dose of measles, mumps, rubella vaccine was 80%.

Facts about Virginia Information Systems Integrated Online Network (VISION)

- VISION collects and manages immunization data for the entire state of Virginia.
- The targeted age group for VISION is birth through 18 years of age.
- Currently, entities which will link with the registry include:
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program
 - Public Health Clinic Patient Management/Billing System
- As of June 21, 1999:
 - 10% of children less than 6 years old were enrolled in the registry.
 - Only the public sector is enrolled at this time.

Other unique qualities about VISION:

When fully functional, the registry will be one module of a totally integrated data system. Other modules will include WIC, Communicable Disease, Surveillance, Maternal and Child Health and lead testing..

Other registry plans, accomplishments, and successes:

At present, the registry is partially functional in the public sector. Once it is fully operational in the public sector, plans are to make the system available to the private providers.

Some challenges and barriers affecting registry progress:

Current challenges are primarily associated with the technology, finances, and with time. The success of the registry will ultimately be dependent upon the acceptance by the private medical community and upon the level of financial support from health care providers and others. As the registry becomes web-enabled, focus groups targeting local private providers are planned to help design the look and content of the screens.

Current political or legislative factors affecting registry activity:

There may be a future need for legislation to support the sharing of immunization information through a registry system.

Current registry funding:

The program is currently developing a financial needs assessment for registry expansion. Without question, additional resources will need to be identified to support registry expansion into the private sector and for development and maintenance of a data warehouse/mart at the Virginia Department of Health.

Helpful immunization and immunization registry contacts in Virginia

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Suggestions for Mrs. Gilmore's involvement and support

The administration has been very supportive of immunization efforts in Virginia, and the program would like to request that this support continue in the future.